

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention provides for an improved
5 method and apparatus for cleaning industrial lubricants
used in industrial processes. The method comprises
providing a centrifugal separator apparatus connected as
a bypass or in-line filter in the lubricating or washing
fluid tank. The apparatus includes a centrifugal
10 separator having a casing and a rotor rotatably mounted
in the casing. A centrifugal pump is provided between
the tank and the inlet of the separator. A source of
compressed air is provided connected to the casing of the
separator. Some of the fluid from the tank is pumped by
15 the centrifugal pump into the separator to cause the
rotor to rotate at a speed sufficient to provide a
rotational force of the fluid impinging on the casing of
between about 1000g and about 2000g to thereby clean the
fluid. The cleaned fluid is returned to the tank. The
20 volume of air in the casing is maintained by introduction
of air into the casing by the source of compressed air.
A control panel is provided to monitor the operation of
the separator and control the pump and source of
compressed air to maintain rotational force of the
25 separator within the range.